

WISCONSIN

2003

Early September

# Canada Goose Hunting Regulations

September 2 - 15, 2003



*Remember to report  
each Canada goose harvested  
within 48 hours of the kill by calling  
1-800-99-GOOSE.  
(1-800-994-6673)*



Wis. Dept. of Natural Resources  
Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707  
PUB-WM-194 2003

*Dear Early September Canada Goose Season Hunter:*

*A growing number of hunters are slipping their shotguns out of the case a little earlier in the year as they discover the enjoyment, challenge, and effective techniques of the special early September Canada goose season. Our resident geese can change their feeding and movement patterns significantly as September approaches, so hunters who scout prior to the season and stay mobile during the season, are the most successful. Almost 12,000 Canada geese were harvested last year during the third statewide early season.*

*To participate in the 2003 season, you will need to purchase an Early September Canada goose season permit, small game hunting authorization, the state waterfowl stamp privilege, a federal migratory bird stamp and be HIP certified. Anyone born after January 1, 1973 needs to have passed a state hunter education course. Just like goose hunters in the Exterior Zone during the regular goose season, you are required to report each goose harvested by calling the toll free reporting system at: 1-800-99-GOOSE (1-800-994-6673). Be prepared to enter your DNR customer ID, the date of kill, the county and subzone of kill, and the number of geese harvested on a touch-tone phone. If you call from a rotary phone or have difficulties entering information, you can speak with a live operator. It only takes a few minutes to report this mandatory information which helps estimate our state harvest and determine future harvest management options.*

*Please remember that the Early September Canada goose season is held at a time of year when there are many others spending time outdoors in Wisconsin. There is plenty of room for everyone to enjoy their recreational pursuits if we respect each other's interests. Thank you for keeping past Early September Canada goose hunts safe and an enjoyable time of the year for all outdoor enthusiasts. Our actions reflect on all hunters and help determine future hunting opportunities!*

*We wish you a safe and successful season!*

*Michelle Lehner  
Assistant Migratory Game Bird Ecologist*

### Report Hunting Violations

**CALL 1-800-TIP-WDNR**

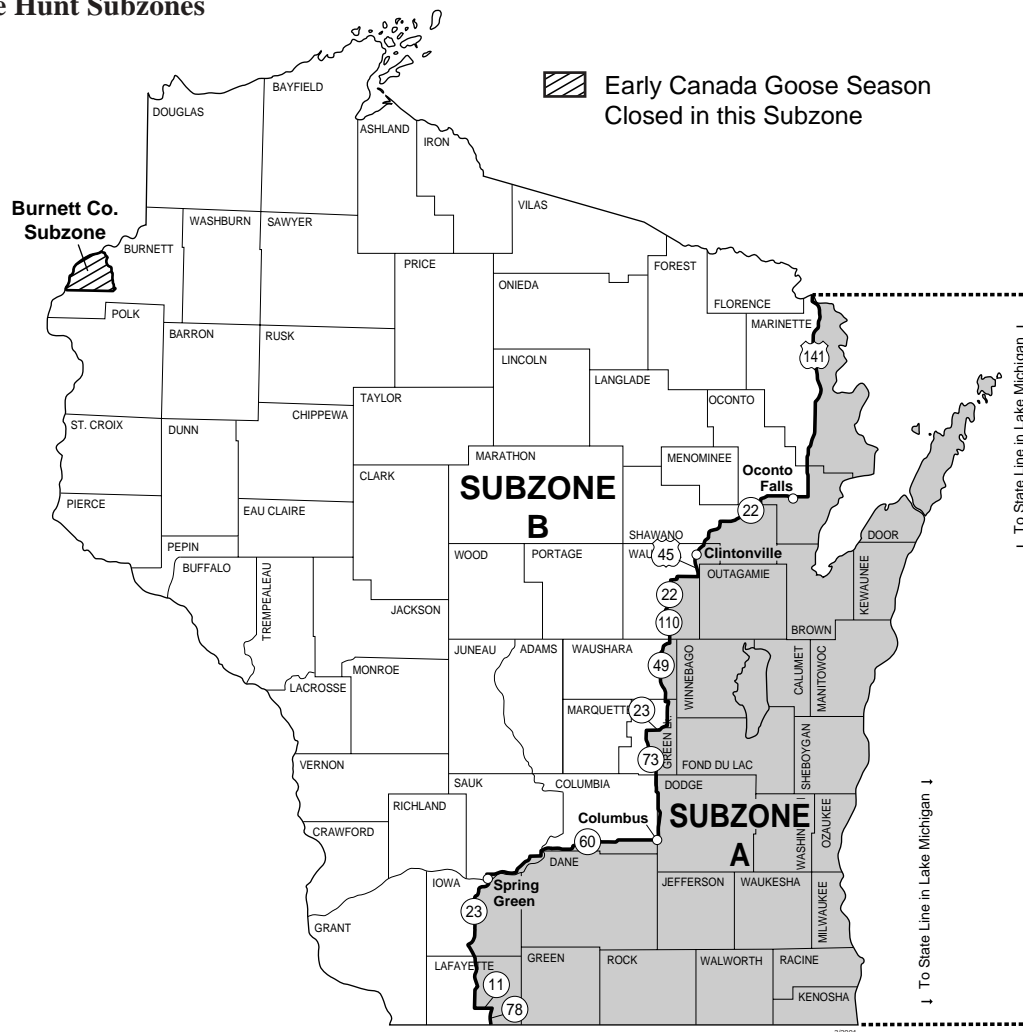
**(1-800-847-9367)**

**Toll Free • Statewide • 24-Hour • Confidential  
(This is NOT an information number)**

### Participation:

The season is open to all licensed hunters who possess an Early September Canada Goose Hunting Permit. The permits are available for \$3.00 at DNR offices, license vendors, by phone or on the internet. Hunting permits may be purchased at any time prior to and during the Early September Canada Goose season. Participation in this hunt will not affect your participation in any Zone hunt during regular Canada goose seasons.

### Early September Goose Hunt Subzones



### Warning

Some of the areas located in these goose hunting subzones have local firearm discharge restrictions. Please contact the appropriate local enforcement authorities to see if there are any local restrictions on the discharge of firearms in the area you plan to hunt.

### Daily Bag and Possession Limits:

Subzone A - 5 Canada geese daily, 10 in possession

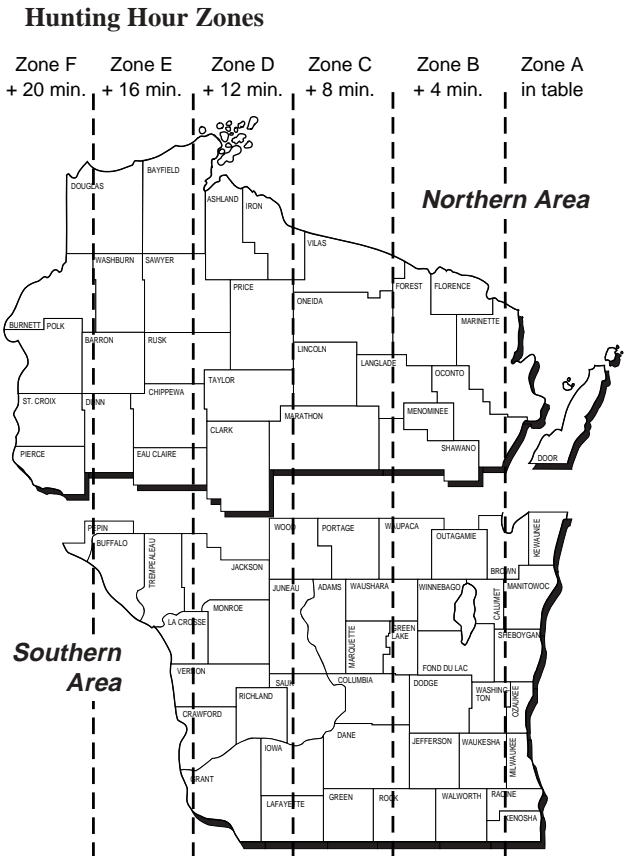
Subzone B - 3 Canada geese daily, 6 in possession

No other species of migratory game birds may be taken.

Calculating hunting hours:

First determine if you are hunting in the northern or southern area using the map to right. Then determine the appropriate zone in which you are hunting. Add the minutes shown for this zone to the opening and closing times found in the appropriate hunting hours table below.

Northern Area Hunting Hours			Southern Area Hunting Hours		
	A.M.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
Sept. 2	5:42	7:27	Sept. 2	5:45	7:25
Sept. 3	5:43	7:25	Sept. 3	5:46	7:23
Sept. 4	5:45	7:23	Sept. 4	5:47	7:22
Sept. 5	5:46	7:21	Sept. 5	5:49	7:20
Sept. 6	5:47	7:19	Sept. 6	5:50	7:18
Sept. 7	5:48	7:17	Sept. 7	5:51	7:16
Sept. 8	5:49	7:15	Sept. 8	5:52	7:15
Sept. 9	5:51	7:13	Sept. 9	5:53	7:13
Sept. 10	5:52	7:12	Sept. 10	5:54	7:11
Sept. 11	5:53	7:10	Sept. 11	5:55	7:09
Sept. 12	5:54	7:08	Sept. 12	5:56	7:07
Sept. 13	5:56	7:06	Sept. 13	5:58	7:05
Sept. 14	5:57	7:04	Sept. 14	5:59	7:04
Sept. 15	5:58	7:02	Sept. 15	6:00	7:02



Non-Toxic Shot:

Non-toxic shot (see Section 4) use is required for all waterfowl hunting.

Permits, licenses and stamps:

To participate in this early season, all hunters must possess all of the following:

- a current Wisconsin small game hunting license (includes Sports and Patron's license),
- a current WI Early September Canada Goose Hunting Permit,
- Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration,
- federal waterfowl stamp,
- the state waterfowl stamp privilege (on your license),
- a valid hunter education certificate, if born on or after January 1, 1973.

(Note: a person who has not reached the age of 16 years is not required to have either stamp.) Wisconsin hunter safety graduates do not need to purchase the state stamp privilege during the period in which the small game hunting privilege is free, but they must possess all other requirements. Senior Citizen Recreation Card holders are also exempt from the state stamp requirement, but a federal waterfowl stamp is required.

Pick up litter and keep your hunting grounds healthy!

# State and Federal Migratory Game Bird Restrictions

**Migratory game birds** include ducks, geese, brant, rails, coots, gallinules, woodcock, snipe and mourning doves. The restrictions which apply include all those listed in the general hunting regulations (separate pamphlet) plus the following:

**All rules below are both State (S) and Federal (F) unless specifically noted.**

- **Dual violation:** Violation of state migratory bird regulations is also a violation of federal regulations.
- **Caution:** More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges and Federally owned Waterfowl Production Areas open to public hunting. For additional information on federal regulations, contact U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Migratory Bird Coordinator,Federal Building, Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4056. Telephone: (612) 713-5300. It is the **hunter’s** responsibility to know what rules apply.

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Hours:** Hunt before or after established hunting hours. (See hunting hours and map above.)
- **Closed season:** Take migratory game birds during the closed season.
- **Daily bag limits:** Take, in any one day, more than one daily bag limit.

## Methods Restrictions

### 1. Open Water (S)

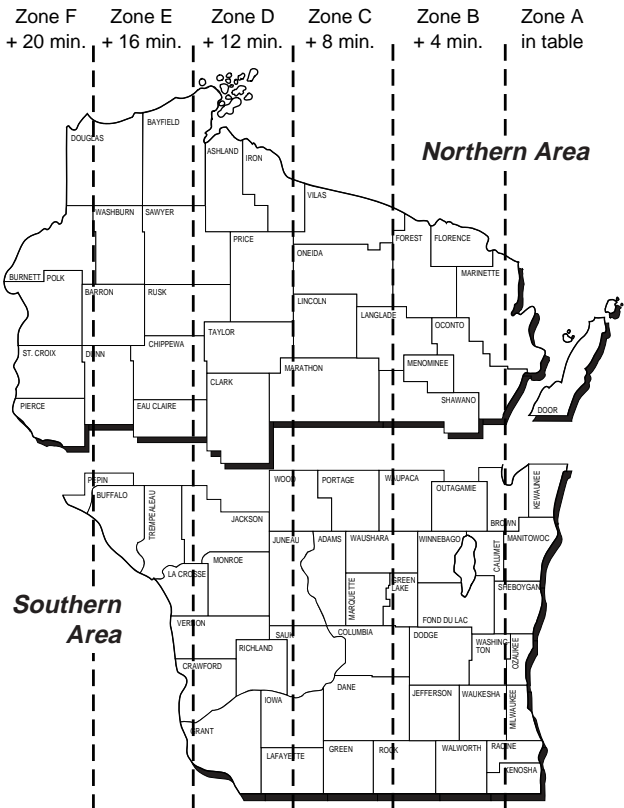
“**Open water**” means any water beyond a natural growth of vegetation rooted to the bottom and extending above the water surface of such height as to offer whole or partial concealment to the hunter. Dead stumps and dead trees in the water do not constitute a natural growth of vegetation.

- **Open Water Hunting:** No person may hunt waterfowl in open water from any blind which may include any boat, canoe, raft, contrivance, or similar device except: on Big Green Lake and the Great Lakes if beyond 500 feet of the shoreline (blinds need not be anchored) or 1000 feet of any lake or island shoreline on Lake Winnebago (blinds must be anchored). All open water blinds shall be removed at the close of hunting hours each day.

*Note: You may hunt in any open water area provided you are standing on the bottom or on a frozen surface without the aid of any blind. Blind includes any securely anchored boat, canoe, raft or similar device.*

- **Jump Shooting:** The open water restrictions are not intended to prohibit legal jump shooting activities. It is legal to hunt by non-motorized boat in streams. However, on larger bodies of water, the hunter must keep a portion of the boat in natural vegetation. Skirting the edge of rivers and lakes in this manner is considered legal.

### Hunting Hour Zones



### 2. Structures, Boats and Vehicles

While pursuing migratory game birds, **it is illegal to:**

- **Structures (S):** Hunt from any pier, dam, dock, break-water or similar artificial structure. Class A disabled hunting permit holders are exempted.
- **Sink box:** Hunt from a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- **Waterfowl blinds (S):** Establish a waterfowl blind on state property, including the bed of any navigable lake, prior to 7 days before the season or leave it established beyond 7 days after the close of the season. No person may maintain, occupy or use any blind left on state property during the season unless the owner's name, address and customer identification number in the English language and in lettering one inch square or larger is affixed permanently to the blind and shall be readily visible and legible at all times.
- **Moving boats:** Hunt from any *moving* boat *other than those* propelled by paddle, oars or pole. Motorboats and sailboats must have their motors completely shut off and/or the sail furled and the boat's progress stopped before loading firearm and shooting.
- **Vehicle use:** Take migratory game birds from, or with the aid or use of, any vehicle except by qualified disabled persons under DNR permit and as authorized by Federal Rules.

### 3. Devices

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Decoys:** Hunt with decoys which are:
  1. Placed beyond 200 feet from the blind or cover in which the hunter is located (S).
  2. Placed in the water prior to one hour before the opening of waterfowl hunting time (S).
  3. Left in the water more than 20 minutes after the close of waterfowl hunting time (S).
  4. Left in the water unattended. *Note: You may leave decoys unattended on dry land* (S).
  5. Live, tame or captive ducks or geese, regardless of distance from the hunter.

All live, tame, or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.

- **Bird calls:** Use records, tapes or CDs of migratory bird calls or sounds or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls.
- **Baiting:** Directly or indirectly place, expose, deposit, distribute, or scatter salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them.
- **Baited area:** Hunt migratory game birds by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person

knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. Any such area will remain a baited area for 10 days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain, or other feed.

- **Hazing:** Use in any manner any air, water, or motor-driven land conveyance for the purposes of concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up any migratory game bird to put them in the range of hunters.

### 4. Guns and Ammunition

While pursuing migratory game birds, **it is illegal to:**

- **Shotguns:** Hunt with anything other than a shotgun fired from the shoulder, bow and arrow, or by falconry.
- **Crossbows** are not legal to use except by the following:
  - a. Resident disabled hunters issued a Crossbow permit or a Class A, B or C permit that authorizes hunting with a crossbow with a valid archery license.
  - b. Resident hunters 65 years of age or older with a valid archery license.
  - c. Non-resident disabled hunters issued a Class A, B or C permit that authorizes hunting with a crossbow with a valid archery license.

**Note:** When authorized, crossbows shall have a minimum draw of 100 pounds, a working safety, and use 14 inch minimum length bolts or arrows and broadheads.
- **Other Methods:** Take with a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance is illegal.
- **Shotgun capacity:** Hunt with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- **Shot type:** Hunt with any type of lead shot when hunting waterfowl, coots and gallinules. Any shot used must be nontoxic (defined below). This means muzzleloaders must also use nontoxic shot. Only nontoxic sizes BB, BBB, T, or smaller are legal. Size F shot is illegal in Wisconsin. In addition, no person may possess any shotshell loaded with shot material other than nontoxic shot when hunting waterfowl, coots or gallinules.

Non-toxic shot currently approved for use:

- a. Steel shot,
- b. Steel shot with coatings of <1% total mass of either copper, nickel, zinc chromate, or zinc chloride,
- c. Bismuth-tin in a mixture of 97-3%, respectively,
- d. Tungsten-iron, Tungsten-iron-nickel-tin, Tungsten-nickel-iron, Tungsten-matrix and Tungsten-polymer.

- **Weapons transport (S):** Carry in or on a motor-driven boat while the motor is running, any firearm or bow unless such firearm is unloaded and such bow is unstrung or enclosed within a carrying case.
- **Notice:** Non-toxic shot will be required for all shotgun hunting, except wild turkey and deer, on all Federally owned Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA).

**Other Information:** The purpose of this hunt is to provide additional harvest of local giant Canada goose populations. All usual state and federal restrictions for waterfowl hunting will apply to this early September Canada goose season.

## Possession Restrictions

- **Retrieval:** No person may kill or cripple any game bird without making every reasonable effort to retrieve such bird. A hunter who cripples a bird which falls or moves into open water may immediately pursue the bird into open water and shoot from a boat while being propelled by paddle, oars or pole.

### Reporting and Validating Requirements:

- When a Canada goose is killed and before it is carried by hand or transported in any manner, the hunter shall validate the permit by slitting or punching holes in the permit in the manner indicated. Failure to do so renders any goose in the person's possession illegal.
- Hunters must report each goose harvested within 48 hours of the kill by calling, toll free, 1-800-99-GOOSE (1-800-994-6673).
- **Tagging:** No person may give, put, or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:
  1. The hunter's signature
  2. The hunter's address
  3. The total number of birds involved
  4. The dates such birds were killed

No person or business may receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged and a record of such receipt is kept by the business.

- **Possession of live birds:** Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

- **Important:** For information regarding the importation of migratory game birds killed in another country, hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66 (a copy can be obtained from the USFWS address shown under "Caution" on the inside of this pamphlet).
- **Shipment:** No person may ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with:
  1. The name and address of the person sending the birds
  2. The name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent
  3. The number of birds by species, contained in the package
- **Transportation:** After validating your permit, migratory game birds may be field dressed before they are transported from the field. However, the head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being (1) transported from the field *to* the person's permanent abode *and* (2) between a hunting cabin, camp, motel or other temporary abode *to* the permanent abode.

**Bird Bands:** Should you obtain a bird band, call 1-800-327-BAND (1-800-327-2263) to report the date and location of recovery. You may also flatten the band out and tape it to a 3x5 postcard or simply write the number on a 3x5 postcard. Add the date and location of recovery, your name and address and mail the card to: National Biological Service B.B.L. 12100 Beach Forest Rd. Suite 4037, Laurel, Maryland 20708-4037

## Health Advisory

No one should eat Canada geese using the waters in the City of Cedarburg. The DNR has issued this health advice to protect you from exposure to PCB's in Canada geese taken in this area.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This brochure is available in alternate format upon request.

